

Dear Riverhead Town Planning Board,

I have been made aware that a Resolution is on the agenda for the meeting scheduled for March 2, 2023, for a Public Hearing on Riverhead Cider House application. (**Resolution No. 2023-015 – Riverhead Ciderhouse Patio & Tasting Room Expansions -- Resolution to 2schedule a public hearing for the Site Plan Application entitled Riverhead Ciderhouse – Patio & Tasting Room Expansions, which proposes to legalize a 1,294 sq. ft. expansion of an existing 3,186 sq. ft. outdoor patio area, for a total outdoor patio area of 4,480 sq. ft. as well the conversion of a portion of the wine storage area, into an additional tasting room area with a total square footage of 5,150 sq. ft. and to construct 36 additional parking spaces within a 311,396 sq. ft. parcel currently improved with a 108,178 sq. ft. single story building containing the riverhead cider center, cider processing and bottling as well and various agricultural storage areas, with parking and related site improvements, within the Agricultural Protection (APZ) Zoning Use district, situate at [2711 Sound Avenue](#), more particularly identified as SCTM No. 600-41-2-3.1 (Matt Charters).**

I cannot attend this evening's meeting in person as I had planned but I would like to voice my support for the Planning Board to schedule an official public hearing, with appropriate and required public notice in advance, so that I may voice my vehement opposition to any approval of expansion of space and hours, or legalization of the already assumed expansions by Riverhead Cider House as outlined in Resolution No. 2023-015 above. Further, a cease-and-desist order should be in place regarding ongoing construction and use of the nonpermitted illegal spaces. This violation of the covenants the Riverhead Cider House agreed to on 12/3/2015 (Res No. 2015-0092) is ongoing and offensive to the peaceful occupancy by all who call Calverton home. We assume that all businesses along Sound Avenue would honor the historic corridor designation and expect that the Town will support its Riverhead constituents in that effort, and not bend to the will of outside developers.

Riverhead Cider House has already encroached on the Sound Avenue front without seeking setback variances, and has expanded its interior public space without seeking permits. It now wants to legalize these violations and expand further with additional patios, interior space and parking. Please do not allow this expansion to move forward! And again, please enforce a cease-and-desist against ongoing uses and construction. They have over capacity crowds as it is, and adding "permission" to do so will not improve the situation, but will only provide ammunition for all other vineyards and bottlers along Sound Avenue to request and insist on the same. The scenic and rural historic corridor designated decades ago, that is appreciated by the residents of Riverhead will be forever lost and irretrievable.

Additionally, in addition to its wedding showcase online, please be aware the Cider House has a posted fund raiser event scheduled for March 15, 2023, anticipating 100's of attendees, and a Comedy Showcase for April 7, 2023, that is scheduled to start at 7:30 and not end until 9:30pm. These violations of their agreement set forth in the 2015 covenant for hours and capacity are blatant, and clearly a way to thumb their nose at the Town's jurisdiction. Please alert Riverhead Police and Code Enforcement Departments that these violations will be reported as they occur and they will need staff available.

The owner of the Riverhead Cider House is a repeat offender in asking only for forgiveness, and never for permission. He does not care to abide by the rules that all others understand and appreciate for the tranquility and desirability that these ordinances bring to our community. We

do not want a bar or nightclub or catering hall on Sound Avenue. Approvals for this business and others such as the farm stands that dot Sound Avenue, were originally granted because they showcased our agricultural area's best locally grown produce and product, and that is how it should remain.

My neighbors and I implore the Board to take action and stop this offensive neighbor. Thank you.

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